In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at Page 17, Line 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

B'

Reference is now made to Fig. 17, which schematically presents a ring resonator having two discontinuous phase elements. The optical properties of these elements are the same as described earlier. The discontinuous phase elements 350 are designed to have opposite phases, so together do not influence the distribution of the desired mode. Other modes are distorted, however, as previously described in the axial laser case. In this configuration the phase discontinuities introduced by the elements may be arbitrary and need not be exactly π. The intensity distribution of the output beam is the same as that of the mode inside the laser. Thus, in order to improve the distribution of the output beam a third external phase element 352 must be introduced at the output from the laser.

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 7, 13, 14, and 15. Please add new Claims 16-28. Claims 2-6, and 8-12 remain unchanged and are included herein for reference purposes. Please amend Claims 1, 7, 13, 14, and 15 as set forth hereinbelow.

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1. (Amended) An optical resonator comprising reflector elements and at least one static discontinuous phase element disposed between said reflector elements, said at least one static discontinuous phase element having at least one sharp